THE

# Theatrical Observer.

AND

## Daily Bills of the Play.

*"Nothing extenuate nor set down aught in malice."*

*No.* 19. *Saturday, Nov.* 24, 1821. *Price* 1*d.*

## COVENT GARDEN.

For the last time but one, (as the *bills announced) The Exile* was performed at this Theatre yesterday evening: and we are free to confess that we most sincerely rejoice at this prospect of a termination of so lengthened a career of bad taste, *not only* in the hope that the superior enjoyments which are to succeed it, will wean the public mind from the puerile infatuation by which 'tis now engrossed, but as it will afford a relief to our personal convenience, and increase the interest of our novel publication. We feel it a duty we owe to the political world, to announce to it, through the medium of our readers, the circumstance of a change having taken place in the Russian ministry, in a character of no less importance than the Chancellor. We confess that there is a degree of mystery attached to this affair the greatest secresy having been observed; but our private opinion is (from the consumptive looks of the deceased) that either slow poison or a decline bore him to his ancestors, though from the rotundity of figure which marks his successor, we think it very probable that a vacancy will shortly occur, occasioned by a fit of appoplexy.

As further intelligence to our readers, we beg to announce that the Grand Master and Chapter of the order of Malta, upon mature deliberation, have voted a supply of new cloaks to their representatives at the Court of Russia; those lately in use, having (after a minute investigation by a committee of the order, and strict examination of the principal knights of buckram attached to that ancient fraternity) been deemed unworthy of further use, though consigned to the care of the master tailor, with the discretionary power of reviving their use on any future occasion.

The House was very full, and the delight created by the entertainment appeared to be very general.

## DRURY LANE.

The performance of *Hamlet*, at this theatre, last night, drew a numerous and elegant audience to witness Mr. KEAN'S representation of the *Prince of Denmark*.

In our last number we gave a sketch of the characteristics of *Hamlet*: and it is but justice towards *Mr. Kean*, to say that he made them as prominent as *Shakespeare* himself could have wished. If Mr. YOUNG, who played this character at *Covent Garden* on Wednesday evening, surpasses *Mr. Kean* in power of voice—if Mr. C. KEMBLE has the advantage of him in *person*, still he can meet them on the ground of *intellectual* force, and would carry off the prize of public applause. Nothing can be more just than his conception, and more effective than the animation of its delivery. His first meeting with his Father's Ghost—his taunting of *Rosencrantz* and *Guildenstern*—his dialogue with *Polonious*—the soliloquy "*To be or not to be, &c*"—the interview with Ophelia—his instruction to the actors—the scene of the Play—the rebuking of his mother—in short every part that admitted of powerful effect, was managed by *Mr. Kean* with a truth and force of enunciation and action that drew down from all parts of the house the loudest applause. It is evident he has lately re-studied the part and thereby elicited new beauties in his style, and given to the whole a consistent excellence, that places this character amongst his very best histrionic efforts.

Mr. COOPER makes the most admirable *Ghost* we ever had the pleasure to meet with. No *Ghost* ever had the benefit of such a pair of *lungs*. His sepulchral tones were so much approved of by the audience, as to occasion a round of applause. This is the first *Ghost* we ever remember to have been so flatteringly received.

Mr. Munden's *Polonius* was excellent.

The *Ophelia* of Miss KELLY drew tears from many—the best tribute to the admirable manner in which she acted the mad scene: but she had other proof of the feeling of the audience in their warm plaudits.

The other characters were in some respects well sustained, and HARLEY'S *Grave-digger* was particularly good. The Tragedy went off with the pointed satisfaction of the audience, and should be repeated.

# Theatre Royal, Covent Garden.

This Evening will be performed the Opera of

## *The Exile.*

Count Ulrick *(the Exile)* Mr. EGERTON
Governor of Siberia.....Mr. W. FARREN
Baron Altradoff.....Mr. MEADOWS
Count Calmar.....Mr. DURUSET
The Patriarch.....Mr. HUNT
The Czarowitz, .....Master BODEN
Daran.....Mr. YOUNG
Welzien.....Mr. CONNOR
Rimski.....Mr. COMER
Servitz.....Mr. FAWCETT
Yermach.....Mr. CHAPMAN
Officer, Mr. MEARS. Old Cottager, Mr. ATKINS
Mariner, Mr. GEORGE. Servant, Mr. KING
Guard, Mr. LOUIS.
Villagers, Messrs. Taylor, Pyne, &c.
The Empress Elizabeth,....Mrs. FAUCIT
Katharine.....Mrs. TENNANT
Sedona, Mrs. VINING. Alexina, ..Miss FOOTE
Villagers, Mesdms. Beaumont, Love, &c.

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After which a Piece in one act called

## THE RENDEZVOUS.

Bolding Mr. DURUSET, Quake Mr. BLANCHARD,
Charles Mr. HUNT. Simon Mr. MEADOWS, Smart Mr. COMER,
Sophia Miss FOOTE, Lucretia, Miss BEAUMONT,
Rose, Miss LOVE.

To which will be added the Burletta of

## *TOM THUMB THE GREAT*

King Arthur Mr. FAWCETT, Tom Thumb Master LONGHURST,
Lord Grizzle Mr. LISTON, Noodle Mr. TAYLOR,
Doodle Mr. BARNES. Merlin Mr. Jefferies,
Ghost of Gaffer Thumb Mr. Tinney,
Queen Dollalolla Mrs. LISTON
Princess Huncamunca Mrs. STERLING.

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The Public is respectfully informed, that Mr. MACREADY will return to his Engagement on Monday next, and make his first appearance this Season, in the Tragedy of VIRGINIUS.

On Tuesday will be revived Shakespeare's Play of The Two Gentlemen of Verona, with new Scenery, Machinery, Dresses, Decorations, and Music.

# Theatre Royal, Drury Lane.

# Maid or Wife?

## *Or, The Deceiver Deceived.*

Principal Characters by

Mr. ELLISTON, Mr. HARLEY,
Miss SMITHSON, and Miss COPELAND.

After which,

## *The Coronation.*

Principal Characters by

Mr. T. COOKE, Mr. RUSSELL, Mr. KNIGHT, and Miss CUBITT

In which will be given a New Comic Song,

*"The King and the Coronation, Old England and the People."*

By Mr. Knight, with a New Overture composed by Mr. T. Cooke.

To conclude with the Farce of

# The Bee Hive.

Mingle Mr. HARLEY, Captain Merton, Mr. RUSSELL.
Rattan Mr. GATTIE. Joe Mr.
Mrs. Mingle Mrs. TIDSWELL, Emily Miss CUBITT.
Cicely Miss KELLY.

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On Monday, A Petit Comedy With the Coronation, And Giovanni in London.

On Tuedsay, Nov. 27, will be revived, the Tragedy of

**DE MONFORT,**

(5th act altered) De Monfort, Mr. KEAN.

Rezenvelt, Mr. Cooper, Count Freberg, Mr. Barnard, Jerome, Mr. Foote, Manuel, Mr. Powell, Anselm, Mr. Thompson Jane De Monfort, Mrs. Egerton, Countess Freberg, Miss Smithson.

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